

(d) inoculating said individual bacterial strains from step (c) in a modified Tryptone Soya Broth medium, having original pH value about 7.0, said pH value of the medium being adjusted to different pH values ranging between 8.0-11.0, using Tris-HCl buffer and NaOH- Na_2CO_3 buffer or NaHCO_3 - Na_2CO_3 buffer under sterile conditions;

(e) growing said individual bacterial strains obtained from step (d) in modified Tryptone Soya Broth medium for 16-24 hrs. at different pH values ranging from 8.0-11.0 to select the bacterial strains growing at pH 11.0 and the remaining bacterial strains unable to grow at pH 11.0 being acclimatized at pH 11.0;

(f) inoculating said selected acclimatized individual bacterial strains from step (e) in a modified Nutrient Broth medium, having pH values about pH 7.0, [the] said pH being adjusted to different pH values ranging from 9.0-11.0 using NaOH- Na_2CO_3 buffer or NaHCO_3 - Na_2CO_3 buffer under sterile conditions;

(g) adding a dye, phenol red indicator and optionally 1% carbohydrate to [the] said inoculated medium of individual bacterial strains obtained from step (f) to observe the change in colour for acid production and to identify the acid producing strains at pH 9.0-11.0;

(h) growing said inoculated bacterial strains obtained from step (g) for a period of at least 2 days and thereafter observing acid production by the change in colour of phenol red in [the] said medium from red to orange, orange to yellow and by measuring the decrease in pH of [the] said medium;

(i) selecting the acid producing bacterial strains at pH 11.0;

(j) mixing said selected bacterial strains from step (i) to obtain mixed bacterial suspension;

(k) centrifuging the mixed suspension of bacterial strains obtained from step (j) at 8,000-12,000 rpm to obtain pellet;

(l) washing the obtained pellet from step (k) by suspending the pellet in triple distilled water and re-centrifuging at 8,000-12,000 rpm; and